

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PREVENTION OF SUICIDE

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the US¹; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, 47,173 Americans died by suicide and an estimated 1,400,000 attempted suicide¹; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, suicide and self-injury cost the US \$69 billion²; and

WHEREAS, per 100,000 Idaho ranks 5th in the nation for deaths by suicide²; and

WHEREAS, more than 12 times as many people die by suicide in Idaho annually than by homicide making suicide the 2nd leading cause of death for ages 15-44²; and

WHEREAS, evidence indicates that suicide can be prevented by coverage of mental health conditions in health insurance policies and reduce provider shortages in underserved areas⁴; and

WHEREAS, educating the public on the primary methods and warning signs of suicide, promoting gatekeeper training, and providing access in local communities to treatment for people at risk of suicide are best practices⁴; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Public Health Districts are responsible to promote and protect the health of Idaho citizens; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho Association of District Boards of Health support promoting strategies and the best available evidence recommendations in all 44 counties to create awareness and educate our population on suicide prevention.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Idaho Public Health Districts seek opportunities to collaborate with stakeholders to help communities improve their focus on prevention activities with the greatest potential to prevent suicide.

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1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Data & Statistics Fatal Injury Report (2017)
 2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Data & Statistics Fatal Injury Report (2016)
 3. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (2019)
 4. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention, Preventing Suicide: A Technical Package of Policy, Programs and Practices (2017)
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicide-technicalpackage.pdf>